

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claims 1-31. Please add new claims 32-55.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-31 (Cancelled)

32. (new) A structural panel comprising:

- a) a first track;
- b) a second track;
- c) a plurality of elongated members therebetween connected to and securing the first track to the second track, wherein the intersection of the outermost elongated members and the first track and the second track define four inner corners;
- d) at least one pair of brackets wherein each bracket of a pair is secured to one of two diametrically opposed inner corners, each of said brackets comprised of a polygonal body with a first side and a second side defining a thickness with a cavity extending therethrough to further define a cavity wall, a first end and a second end, wherein the first end and the second end each have mutually perpendicular outer surfaces, wherein an imaginary first penetration line extends away from both the first end and the second end and wherein the first penetration line intersects and passes through the cavity wall, wherein a first passageway extends about the first penetration line through the cavity wall, wherein an imaginary second penetration line extends from and in a direction perpendicular to the outer surface of the first end, wherein a second passageway extends about the second penetration line through the cavity wall of the first end, and wherein the cavity wall surrounding the first passageway has a convex shape;
- e) a cross member passing through the first passageway of one of the pair of brackets and secured at a first end to the one of the pair of brackets and the cross member passing through the first passageway of the other of the pair of brackets and secured at a second end to the other of the pair of brackets; and
- f) the second passageway of each of the pair of brackets adapted for receiving a connecting member.

33. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the imaginary first penetration line forms an angle of between 30-60° with the outer surface of the first end.

34. (new) The structural panel according to claim 33, wherein the angle is 45°.

35. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the polygonal body has the shape of a pentagon.

36. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the cavity has a plurality of sides.

37. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the polygonal body has the shape of a rectangle.

38. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the polygonal body has the shape of a triangle.

39. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the cavity has sides which form a rectangle.

40. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein at least one side of the cavity is circular.

41. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, further including a third passageway about the second penetration line and through the cavity wall opposite the second passageway.

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Fig. 6

~~✓~~ 42. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the first passageway is biased toward the first side.

~~✓~~ 43. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein the first passageway is comprised of two portions that taper down and intersect approximately midway between the wall thickness.

✓ 44. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein there are two pairs of brackets.

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✓ 45. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein each bracket is welded to one of either a top or second track and to the adjacent outermost stud.

✓ 46. (new) The structural panel according to claim 32, wherein each cross member has threaded ends which extend through the first passageways in the brackets and are secured to the brackets with mating nuts, which coact with the cavity walls surrounding the first passageways, such that the tension in the cross member may be adjusted by tightening or loosening the nuts against the brackets.

✓ 47. (new) The structural panel according to claim 46, further including washers on each cross member between the nuts and the cavity walls surrounding the first passageways in the brackets.

~~✓~~ 48. (new) The structural panel as claimed in claim 47, wherein said washer contacts the cavity wall and is tangent thereto.

✓ 49. (new) The structural panel as claimed in claim 32, wherein said first passage is elongated so that the cross member may be received by the first passageways in a plurality of angles relative to the first imaginary penetration line of the brackets.

✓ 50. (new) The structural panel as claimed in claim 32, wherein the elongated members comprise studs.

51. (new) A structural panel comprising:

- a) a first track;
- b) a second track;
- c) a plurality of elongated members therebetween connected to and securing the first track to the second track, wherein the intersection of the outermost elongated member and the first track and the second track define four corners;
- d) four brackets, one bracket secured to a respective corner, the four brackets defining two pairs of diagonally spaced brackets, each of the brackets defining a cavity; and
- e) two cross members, each cross member having two end portions, the end portion of each of the cross members received in a respective one of the bracket cavity, each cross member secured to a respective bracket of the pair of the brackets, wherein each of the cross members end portions coacts with a respective bracket of the pair of brackets through a convex-shaped surface.

✗ 52. (new) The structural panel according to claim 51, wherein the convex surfaces are defined by cylindrical washers on each of the cross members between mating nuts received on the end portions of the cross members and the brackets.

✗ 53. (new) The structural panel according to claim 51, wherein the convex surfaces are defined by hillside washers on each of the cross members between mating nuts received on the end portions of the cross members and the brackets.

✗ 54. (new) The structural panel according to claim 51, wherein the convex surfaces are defined by D-shaped washers on each of the cross members between mating nuts received on the end portions of the cross members and the brackets.

Application No. 10/034,978

Paper Dated:

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of May 14, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 1381-011312

55. (new) The structural panel according to claim 51, wherein the convex members are defined on each of the brackets.
